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## NOTES.

*Bulletin des Sciences Mathématiques* for September, 1920, contains (pages 194–200) Picard's addresses at the opening and closing of the Strasbourg Mathematical Congress, September 22–30, 1920. They are also given in *Revue Scientifique*, November 13, 1920, pages 641–643.

In the *Quarterly Journal of Mathematics*, October, 1920, appears Sir Thomas Muir's seventh list of writings on determinants. It contains 264 titles, 32 of which are taken from this MONTHLY. Among the authors represented are 35 Americans.

The first 21 numbers (pages 1–254) of *Mathematical Notes, a Review of Elementary Mathematics and Science*, were published by the Edinburgh Mathematical Society, April, 1909–December, 1916. The next number of this publication did not appear until November, 1920, and then occupied pp. 51–64 of *Proceedings of the Edinburgh Mathematical Society*, volume 38.

Paul Appell's *Traité de Mécanique rationnelle* (Paris, Gauthier-Villars) has long been the leading treatise on the subject. The third edition ("entièrement refondue") of the third volume (*Equilibre et mouvement des milieux continus*, 674 pages, price 60 francs) and the first edition of a fourth volume (*Figures d'équilibre d'une masse fluide homogène en rotation sous l'attraction newtonienne*, 297 pages, price 30 francs) were published in November, 1920. Important additions to the third volume are the accounts of the work of Villat on movements of a fluid parallel to a fixed plane and of Bjerknes on "les fluides baroclines."

The concluding number of the first volume of *Archivio di Storia della Scienza* was published in August, 1920 [cf. 1920, 474]. Aldo Miele continues his methodical bibliography (about 325 titles) of Italian works on the history of science, pages 397–420; there are also: (a) a brief review by A. Mieli of L. C. Karpinski, H. Y. Benedict, and J. W. Calhoun's *Unified Mathematics* (New York, 1918), 432; (b) "Elia Millosevich (1884–1919)" by G. Abetti, 446–447; (c) "H. G. Zeuthen (1839–1920)," with a list of his historical publications, by G. Loria, 447–451.

The following five mathematical periodicals have ceased publication (temporarily, at least): *Archiv der Mathematik und Physik* (last volume, 28, 1919); *Bibliotheca Mathematica* (last volume, 14, 1914–1915); *Journal de Mathématiques Pures et Appliquées* (Liouville, last volume, 84, 1919); *Nouvelles Annales de Mathématiques* (last volume, 79, 1920); *Zeitschrift für Mathematik und Physik* (last volume, 64, 1917). It has been announced that *Annales scientifique de l'Ecole Normale Supérieure* and *Bulletin de la Société Mathématique de France* will have to be discontinued unless many new subscribers are forthcoming at an early date.—Volume 81 of *Mathematische Annalen* (price, in Germany, 96

marks, 320 pages) was sent out by the new publisher, Springer, Berlin, in November, 1920. The editors plan to accept for publication articles on mathematics and all its applications, and not, as formerly, to limit publication to research papers in pure mathematics. Up to December 15, 1920, Teubner had published only the first number of volume 80.

The first number, June, 1920, of the second volume of *Bulletin de la Société Mathématique de Grèce* (1920, 314) opens with a list of the officers of the society and of its 123 members in 1919. This is followed by a portrait and brief sketch of "ΚΩΝΣΤΑΝΤΙΝΟΣ ΚΑΡΑΘΕΟΔΩΡΗ" (Constantine Carathéodory) recently appointed professor of mathematics at the University of Athens (1920, 337), but whom Vénizélos had expected would organize the new Greek university at Smyrna. The French articles in the number are: "Généralisation des formules de Combes-cure-Darboux" by N. Hatzidakis, 16-18; "Sur quelques propriétés des fonctions croissantes" by G. J. Rémondos, 19-23; "Sur l'intégration de l'équation de Laplace entre deux sphères non concentriques" by D. Hondros, 24-28; "Sur la théorie de la flexion" by N. Sakellariou, 32-36.

The *Canadian Magazine* for July, 1920, contains an article by W. S. Wallace entitled "Some letters of Francis Maseres: 1766-1769." This interesting article furnishes new light on his life and on the period during which he was attorney general of Quebec.

Baron Maseres, historian, reformer and amateur mathematician, was born in London in 1731. He graduated from the University of Cambridge as senior wrangler in 1752 (according to Ball's *History of the Study of Mathematics at Cambridge*) and took up the practice of law. In 1773 he was appointed baron of the exchequer and he held this position until his death in 1824, "a length of tenure without parallel in the records of law." He was also for many years a senior judge of the sheriffs court in the city of London. "Homer he knew by heart, and Horace was at his fingers' ends. Lucian was his favorite next to Homer in ancient literature. . . . He spoke French fluently, but it was the language in idiom and expression which his ancestors had brought over to England." (*Dictionary of National Biography*).

Many of his numerous books, pamphlets, and reports, not referred to in 'D.N.B.' are listed in H. J. Morgan, *Bibliotheca Canadensis*, 1867, and in P. Gagnon, *Bibliographie Canadienne*, Quebec, 1895. He wrote *Elements of plane trigonometry*, 1760, a meritorious treatise in two volumes on life assurance, 1783, and several works on algebra "which are valueless because he refused to allow the use of negative or impossible quantities." But his *Scriptores Logarithmici*, in six quarto volumes, 1791-1807, is a very useful work since it contains reprints of many of the older publications on logarithms.

Each of the three volumes of Wallis, *Opera Omnia*, 1699, in the Brown University library contains the autograph "F. Maseres. Aug. 27, 1774."